AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claims 1-61 (Canceled)

62.   (New) A method for displaying information topics that are available via an online help system for a computer, comprising the steps of:

storing one or more HTML source files of information for a given topic in a designated folder associated with that topic;

selecting the folder associated with a topic of interest;

searching each of the files at a first hierarchial level in the selected folder to identify files of a predetermined type;

examining each of the identified files to locate HTML metatags that pertain to the display of help information;

generating an HTML file containing data associated with each of the located metatags; and

displaying an HTML page in accordance with said generated file to thereby provide a table of contents for the topic of interest.

63.   (New) The method of claim 62, further including the step of filtering the identified files, prior to said examining step, to select files having a predetermined designation.

64.   (New) The method of claim 63, wherein said predetermined designation is a creator designation.

65.   (New) The method of claim 63, wherein said predetermined designation is a file extension.

66.   (New) The method of claim 62, wherein said predetermined type is a text file.

67.   (New) The method of claim 62, wherein the step of generating said HTML file comprises the steps of:

retrieving a stored HTML template file;

duplicating the contents of said template file; and

replacing tokens in said file, that correspond to the located metatags, with the associated data from the metatags that were located in each identified file, during said duplicating step.

68.   (New) The method of claim 67 wherein said template file is stored in the selected folder.

69.   (New) The method of claim 67 wherein said replacing step comprises creating a separate row in said generated file for the respective data from each identified file.

70.   (New) An online help system, comprising:

a memory storing a hierarchy of folders and files, wherein the folders respectively correspond to different topics of information that can be viewed within the help system, and HTML files at the first level of hierarchy within said folders contain metatags associated with data relating to the display of a table of contents for the respective topics to which said folders correspond;

means responsive to the selection of a topic of interest for searching the files in the folder corresponding to said topic to identify files of a predetermined type;

means for examining the identified files to locate said metatags;

means for generating an HTML file containing data associated with the located metatags; and

means for displaying a table of contents for the topic of interest in accordance with said generated file.

71.   (New) The system of claim 70, further including the means for filtering the identified files, to select files having a predetermined designation.

72.   (New) The system of claim 71, wherein said predetermined designation is a creator designation.

73.   (New) The system of claim 71, wherein said predetermined designation is a file extension.

74.   (New) The method of claim 70, wherein said predetermined type is a text file.

75.   (New) The system of claim 70, wherein said memory further stores an HTML template file, and wherein said generating means performs the function of duplicating the contents of said template file, and replacing tokens in said file, that correspond to the located metatags, with the associated data from the metatags that were located in each identified file, during said duplication.

76.   (New) The system of claim 75 wherein said template file is stored in the folder corresponding to the selected topic.

77.   (New) The system of claim 75 wherein said generated file comprises a separate row for the respective data from each identified file.